

TRUMBULL STUDENTS' SUCCESS IN COMPETITION

• Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I would like to acknowledge and congratulate the recent success of the students of Trumbull High School of Trumbull, Connecticut.

On May 6-8 these students competed in the "We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution" national finals in Washington, D.C. This competition, administered by the Center for Civic Education, tests elementary, middle and high school students in their knowledge of the American constitutional government. In the finals, in which Trumbull High School matched wits against 50 other classes from across the country, students acted as constitutional experts and testified before a panel of judges in a congressional hearing.

The Trumbull class was taught by Peter Sullivan and included Rachel Bochinno, Alison Brand, Joanna Bruckman, Melissa Budahazy, Lindsey Cahill, Kelly Chapple, Andrew Conway, Jessica Cotter, Shannon Cusello, Jon Draskovic, Timothy Drummond, Michael Dusiewicz, Kim Ferguson, Kathryn Graf, Juli Griek, Amy Hatzis, Lauren Hellthaler, Christine Jelliffe, Dawn Liscinsky, James Lucia, John Manchisi, Saya Nagori, Ryan O'Neill, Julian Ross, Alison Schary, David Schub, Neerali Shah, Lauren Slade, Paul Strelka, Varun Vasudeva, and Robert Ward.

I am pleased to recognize the accomplishments of these outstanding students. The "We the People . . ." competition is the largest program testing knowledge of the Constitution in the United States, extending to over 26 million students across the country. Advancing to the national finals represents a significant achievement, and demonstrates an impressive interest in and understanding of the structure and processes of our constitutional government. Trumbull High School and all of Connecticut can take great pride in these students' success in a subject that is of fundamental importance to the vitality of our democracy.●

TRIBUTE TO JOHN COOLIDGE

• Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, my home town of Shrewsbury, Vermont, can be a good way farther from Plymouth than it looks, at first glance, on a map. Though the towns' borders touch, Plymouth is on the east side of the Green Mountains in Windsor County, Shrewsbury's in Rutland County high on the mountains' west side. In the winter the drive is about 25 miles, though it shortens to seven in the summer, when the old CCC Road is open. But the two old Vermont mountain towns are, in reality, close in spirit, due in considerable part to the "Coolidge connection".

I thought about this last week on receiving the sad news of the death of

John Coolidge, at 93, the son of President Calvin Coolidge. I had seldom been to The Notch without seeing John, and his greeting was always warm and I usually heard another fascinating story about his father, Calvin, or his mother, Grace. Though father and son shared reputations for being men of few words as Calvin's autobiography shows, he was capable of true eloquence, as was John. Read his introduction to the book "Your Son Calvin Coolidge", if you doubt it.

But as I was saying, the Coolidges helped make Plymouth and Shrewsbury close. Calvin's sister Abbie taught school in Northam, before her early death. Aurora Pierce, the long-time housekeeper at the Coolidge homestead was a product of Shrewsbury. Her cousin Marjorie Pierce, of Shrewsbury, recalls that John Coolidge often stopped by on his annual summer visit to Aurora's grave in the Northam Cemetery. Aurora lived at the homestead long after Calvin Coolidge's death and jealously guarded its historic contents. We owe much to her for preserving, virtually intact, the contents of the house. She was, in her own unique way, a preservationist. So, too, was John.

John once told me that his grandfather, Col. John Coolidge said that to keep the Notch looking as it was would be the best memorial to President Coolidge. The Notch today remains virtually as it was when Calvin Coolidge was president. John Coolidge, working closely with the State of Vermont and through the wonderful Calvin Coolidge Memorial Foundation, which he and his wife Florence, were instrumental in founding, saw to that. It is comforting to know that a Vermonter like myself can always drop in on The Notch and see the Vermont of olden times, of open fields, farm homes, barns in good repair, all living on, and to know what a remarkable event in our nation's history happened in that remote setting—the 1923 homestead inaugural.

I was happy three years ago to be able to deliver a federal appropriation to the Coolidge Foundation and I know it is being well used, continuing the legacy of Calvin Coolidge, a legacy so well carried on by his son.

John Coolidge left many legacies. He nobly and eloquently bore the mantle of first son, which came so suddenly upon him with his father's early death. He had a successful career in business, including the restarting of the Cheese Factory at the Notch. Time and again through countless interviews he showed the world what a true Vermonter was all about. And he made sure that the world "let Plymouth be" as it was in his father's time.

John Coolidge had always lived in Plymouth from spring until after the autumn leaves were gone. Then, two years ago, he came home to Plymouth Notch to live full time. One paper said he'd come home to die, but he really

came home to live. He was proud that he spent his first two winters at The Notch and was added to the Plymouth checklist.

Now he will rest at the Notch Cemetery, besides his father and mother, his wife, his brother Calvin Jr., who died during the Coolidge presidency, and long generations of Coolidges. He will rest in a green and peaceful setting, in a valley he did so much to preserve. Vermont needs to forge on preserving its wondrous landscape, for it is too precious and rare to lose. John Coolidge knew that well and his beloved Notch will long serve as an example for coming generations of Vermonters, indeed, for all Americans.●

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA WINS THE INTERCOLLEGIATE FLYING ASSOCIATION NATIONAL CONFERENCE

• Mr. DORGAN. Mr President, I rise to recognize a recent achievement of the University of North Dakota's flying team. At the end of May, UND won the National Intercollegiate Flying Association National Championship. This is the eleventh such title for our University.

This national championship team placed first in the flight and ground events by scoring 162 points in the 10 different events—32 points more than its closest competitor. Erich Hess won first place in Top Pilot honors and secured the Craig Morrison award by receiving the top combined scores in Computer Accuracy, Simulated Comprehensive Aircraft Navigation and Preflight. Brain Visocky received second place in Top Pilot honors and took first place honors in the Short Field Landing event. Ten other committed students at the John D. Odegard School of Aerospace Sciences helped lead UND to its first place victory.

I commend Coach Al Skramstad and Assistant Coach Eric Brusven for their work in helping these students rigorously prepare for this annual event. Winning the national championship is a significant achievement that could not have been realized if it were not for an enormous commitment on the part of both the students and their instructors.

The University of North Dakota is located in Grand Forks, ND, and I'm honored to have graduated from this great university. The John D. Odegard School of Aerospace Sciences has always played a significant role at the University as an international leader in collegiate and contract aviation education and training services. With more than 1,500 students, the School of Aerospace Science is the second largest college at UND.

And so today I salute the University of North Dakota and its extraordinary championship flying team.●